



00684.003179.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Masami TSUKAMOTO

Application No.: 09/829,915

Filed: April 11, 2001

For: CONTAMINATION PREVENTION
IN OPTICAL SYSTEM

) : Examiner: K. Brown
): Group Art Unit: 2877
): Allowed: June 4, 2003
): Confirmation No.: 8192
): September 4, 2003

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to further examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows: